

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 9 and 45 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,719,956 to *Ogatsu et al.* in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,671,344 to *Stark*.

Claims 1-8, 10-44, 46, and 47 stand allowed.

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

Applicants have canceled claims 9 and 45, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the allowance of claims 1-8, 10-44, 46, and 47.

Accordingly, claims 1-8, 10-44, 46 and 47 are presently pending.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants submitted an Information Disclosure Statement on April 3, 2006. Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging the Information Disclosure Statement by initialing the PTO 1449 form and returning a copy to Applicants.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of the Response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

EXCEPT for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0310. This paragraph is intended to be a **CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME** in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

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